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# AREA NO KISHI CHAPTER 97

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THE MATCH IS OVER!!
YOUIN ACADEMY ADVANCES INTO THE LAST EIGHT WITH A SCORE OF 4-1!!
#97 CONFESSION
A TERRIFIC COUNTER-ATTACK.
FINISHING 0-1 ON THE DEFENSIVE IN THE FIRST HALF HAD US WONDERING WHAT WILL HAPPEN.
BUT WHEN WE ENTERED THE SECOND HALF, YOUIN'S HIDDEN STRENGTH ERUPTED!!

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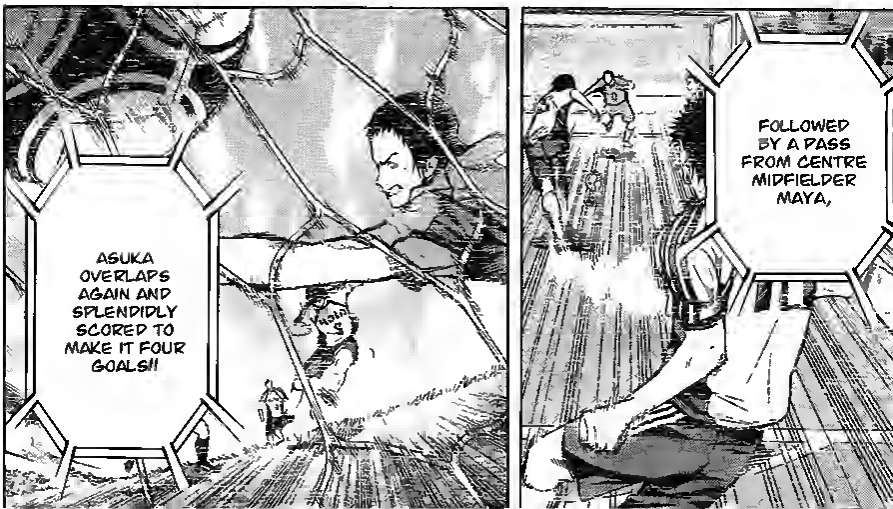
THE EQUALIZER CAME IN MERELY FIVE MINUTES AFTER THE START OF THE SECOND HALF WITH ASUKA'S MID-RANGE SHOT.
FIVE MINUTES AFTER THAT, ONIMARU'S BREAK THROUGH FROM THE SIDE, BROUGHT IT FORWARD ALONE AND FINISHED IT WITH A LOOP-SHOT REVERSING THE LEAD QUICKLY!


AFTER WHICH, SAGAMI GAURA FALLING INTO MOMENTUM, ONIMARU AND SHIRATORI BROKE THROUGH THE FLANKS IN SUCCESSION.
SHIRATORI'S CROSS WAS HEADED ON BY ONE OF THE FORWARDS, KATSURAGI
AND THE GOAL WAS SCORED BY IKUSAWA.



YOUIN ACADEMY'S ELEVEN DEMOLISHED SAGAMI GAURA'S NEW TOTAL FOOTBALL!!
AWFULLY FIERCE ATTACK, YOUIN ACADEMY
NO, WHAT'S FIERCER IS ASUKA-SAN'S DEFENSE
SAGAMI GAURA ALSO FOUGHT HARD, WANTING TO ATTACK BUT AT THE LAST MINUTE, THAT PERSON WOULD APPEAR TO PREVENT THAT.
THE SAGAMI GAURA IN THE SECOND HALF LOOKED PITIFUL.
IS THAT SO?
Eh?
LOOK AT THE EXPRESSIONS OF THE SAGAMI GAURA ELEVEN.
THEY DON'T LOOK LIKE A TEAM WHO HAS JUST SUFFERED A CRUSHING DEFEAT, THEY LOOK CHEERFUL.
...TH-THAT'S RIGHT.

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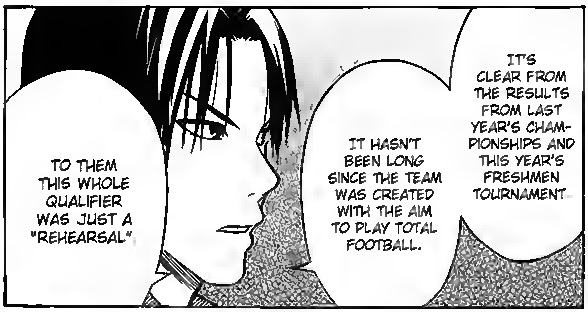
ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT, YOU GUYS HAVE WORKED HARD!!
YOU WERE EXHAUSTED IN THE END BUT THE FIGHT IN THE FIRST HALF WAS A SUCCESS. YOU'VE ALSO UNDERSTOOD THE ISSUE AT HAND, WE'LL WIN THE OFFICIAL GAME EVEN IF IT'S AGAINST YOUIN!
RIGHT? THEY'RE NOT UNBEATABLE.
WE'LL GET OUR REVENGE AT THE OFFICIAL GAME.


IT'S CLEAR FROM THE RESULTS FROM LAST YEAR'S CHAMPIONSHIPS AND THIS YEAR'S FRESHMEN TOURNAMENT.
IT HASN'T BEEN LONG SINCE THE TEAM WAS CREATED WITH THE AIM TO PLAY TOTAL FOOTBALL.
TO THEM THIS WHOLE QUALIFIER WAS JUST A "REHEARSAL".

YES, ALONG WITH HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL IN SUMMER, THE KOSHIEN TOURNAMENT.
THE LARGEST EVENT IN THE WORLD OF HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS.

THEY ARE TARGETING THE WINTER'S HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP
WHILE HAVING THEIR TEAM BUILT.
THE PREFECTURAL QUALIFIERS BEGIN IN AUTUMN, IF WE WERE TO PLAY AGAINST THEM, WE HAVE TO BE CAREFUL.
Heh, I'll kick them aside.
.....

IT MIGHT JUST REVOLUTIONIZE HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL, RIGHT?
KAKERU ...
IF THAT "NEW TOTAL FOOTBALL" REACHES ITS COMPLETION,
THEY MIGHT CERTAINLY BE FORMIDABLE.
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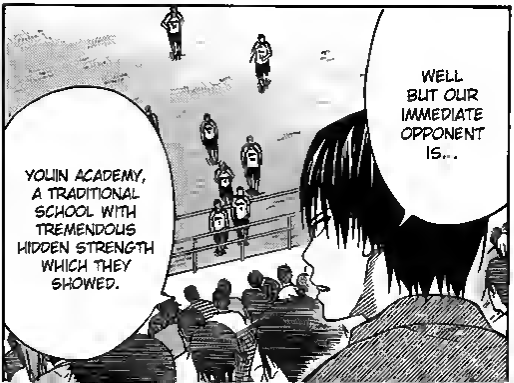
YOUIN ACADEMY, A TRADITIONAL SCHOOL WITH TREMENDOUS HIDDEN STRENGTH WHICH THEY SHOWED.
WELL BUT OUR IMMEDIATE OPPONENT IS...

FOR THE PAST THREE YEARS, THEY'VE NEVER MISSED ADVANCING TO THE FINALS THROUGH THE PREFECTURAL QUALIFIERS IN THE FOUR MAJOR SUMMER-WINTER TOURNAMENTS, A REAL POWERHOUSE.
THAT'S OUR OPPONENT TOMORROW.
IF YOU INTEND TO TREAT THIS AS A PRACTICE MATCH AND PLAY HUMBLY, YOU WILL NOT WIN.
YOU HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO CHALLENGE THEM WITH THE DETERMINATION TO WIN!

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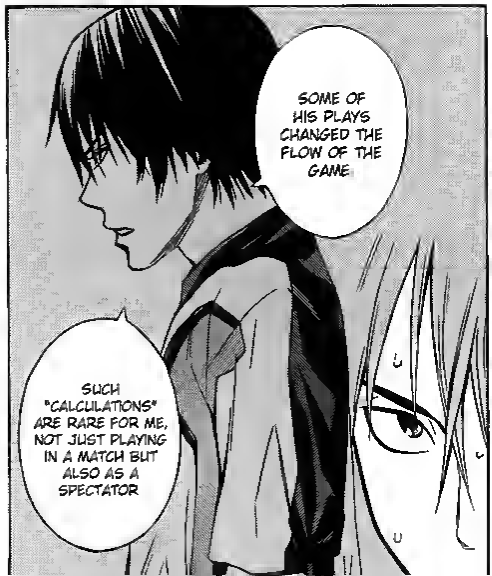
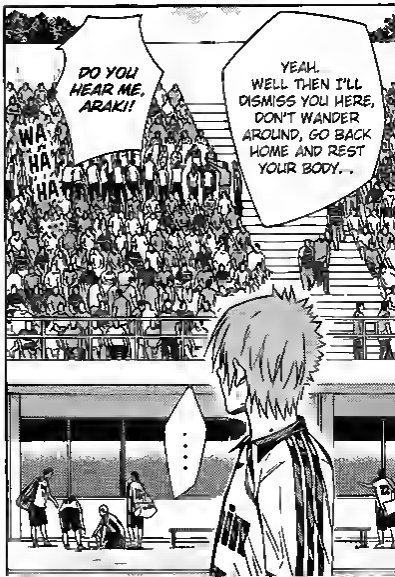
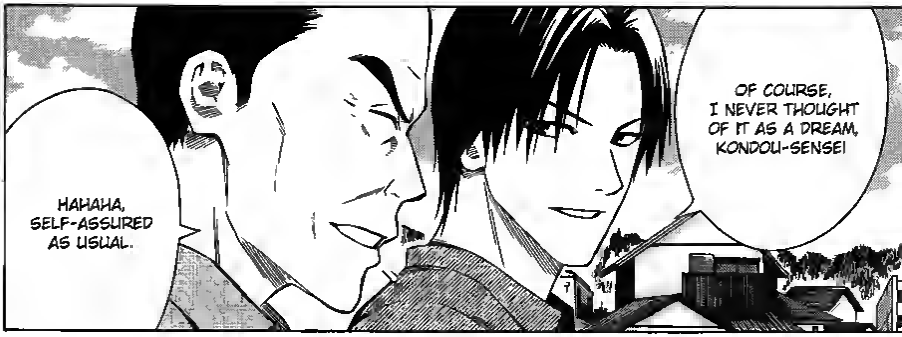

SOME OF HIS PLAYS CHANGED THE FLOW OF THE GAME
SUCH "CALCULATIONS" ARE RARE FOR ME, NOT JUST PLAYING IN A MATCH BUT ALSO AS A SPECTATOR



WHAT'S WRONG, ONIMARU?
TOMORROW'S MATCH...
I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO IT.
YEAH...

BUT AFTER BEATING SHOUNAN UNIVERSITY, A CHAMPIONSHIP FAVORITE,
THE NATIONAL TOURNAMENT DOESN'T SEEM LIKE IT'S A DREAM ANYMORE, IWAKI-KUN.



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DID YOU WATCH THE GAME?
YES, IT WAS GREAT. ENO HIGH'S STEADY ADVANCE, AS A FORMER MANAGER, I'M HAPPY.
.....
WELL WELL, IT'S BEEN A WHILE
MINE-KUN, WHERE AND WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW? YOU ATTENDED THE SAME UNIVERSITY AS IWAKI-KUN.
YES, I MAJORED IN PSYCHOLOGY. NOW I'M A COUNSELOR AT KAMAKURA CENTRAL HOSPITAL.
COUNSELOR?
HMM?
AH.. OK..
AH, I SEE, IWAKI-KUN
IN THE PAST, THE PERSON YOU WOULD SAY GAVE YOU ADVICE WAS HER...
EXCUSE ME, KONDOU-SENSEI
I HAVE SOMETHING TO TALK TO MINE-KUN ABOUT, CAN WE BE EXCUSED FROM HERE?
LET'S GO, MINE-KUN.
YEAH
?

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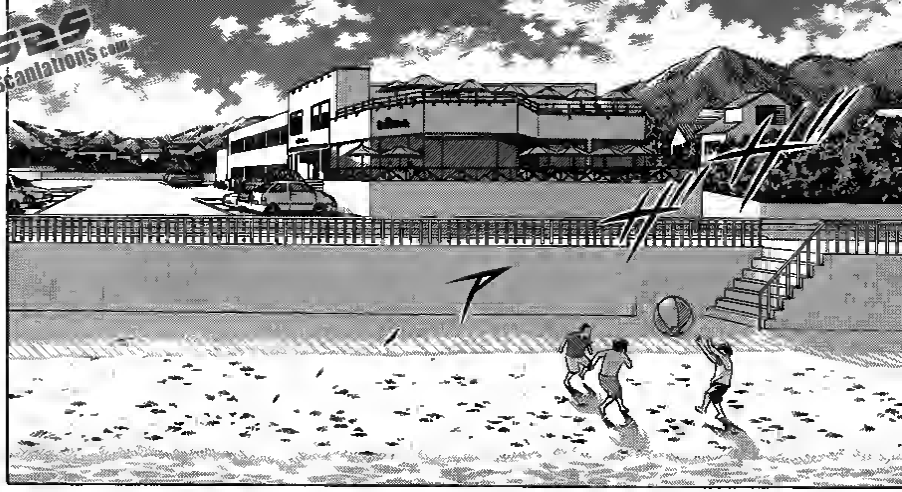

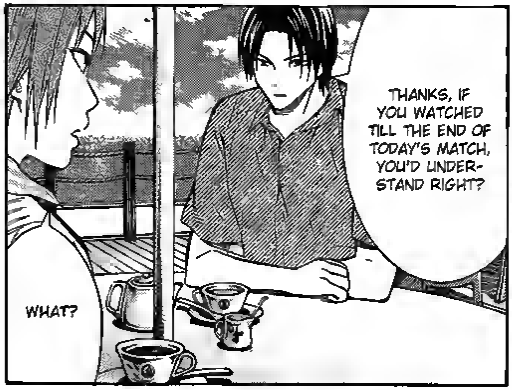


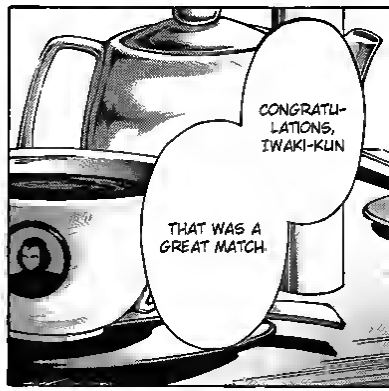

GIGGLE
IWAKI-KUN UNDERSTANDS RIGHT?
THE "FLAIR" HE SHOWED IN THE SECOND HALF.
KAKERU-KUN IS KAKERU-KUN AND NO ONE ELSE.
EVEN IF HE RECEIVED HIS LATE BROTHER'S HEART
NO MATTER HOW YOU LOOK AT IT, IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE A FORWARD'S WAY OF THINKING.
THE PLAY WHICH HE RECEIVED A PASS IN FRONT OF THEIR OWN GOAL, MADE USE OF HIS SURROUNDING UNTIL HE MADE THAT SHOT..
EVERYTHING HAS BECOME A PART OF HIM NOW AND HAS BLOOMED.
KAKERU-KUN IS MOST FAMILIAR WITH HIS OLDER BROTHER, SUGURU-KUN'S PLAYS.
...EVEN IF "SOMETHING" HAPPENED IN THE MIDDLE, THAT'S NOT DUE TO THE MEMORY IN THE HEART.

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INSTILL? WHAT A HORRIBLE WAY OF PUTTING IT.
AS THE COACH OF ENO HIGH, I HOPE THAT HE WILL CONTINUE TO GROW AS A STRIKER AS ORIGINALLY PLANNED.
PLEASE, MINE-KUN, DON'T INSTILL ANYMORE UNNECESSARY THINGS TO HIM...

YOU WOULD BE A TOP-CLASS PLAYER ABOUT NOW.
IF YOU HAD INCLINED TO WHAT I SAID
THAT'S OF COURSE...
BUT I'M A COUNSELOR, LET ME CONTINUE DOING MY JOB
OK, I WON'T TALK TO HIM ABOUT THE MEMORIES OF THE HEART ANYMORE.
ENOUGH, THAT'S ALREADY IN THE PAST
.....
BECAUSE EVEN IF I DIDN'T DO ANYTHING, EVENTUALLY THE "ANSWER" WILL BECOME CLEAR.
IT DOESN'T MATTER ANYMORE

..NOTHING.
LIES.
MINE-KUN, WON'T YOU PLEASE TELL ME
WHAT HAPPENED BETWEEN YOU AND AIZAWA SUGURU-KUN.
I'M LEAVING.
IF THAT'S THE CASE, YOU HAVE NO REASON TO INSIST ON CONTINUING TO LOOK FOR SUGURU-KUN IN KAKERU-KUN.
ISN'T IT, MINE-KUN!
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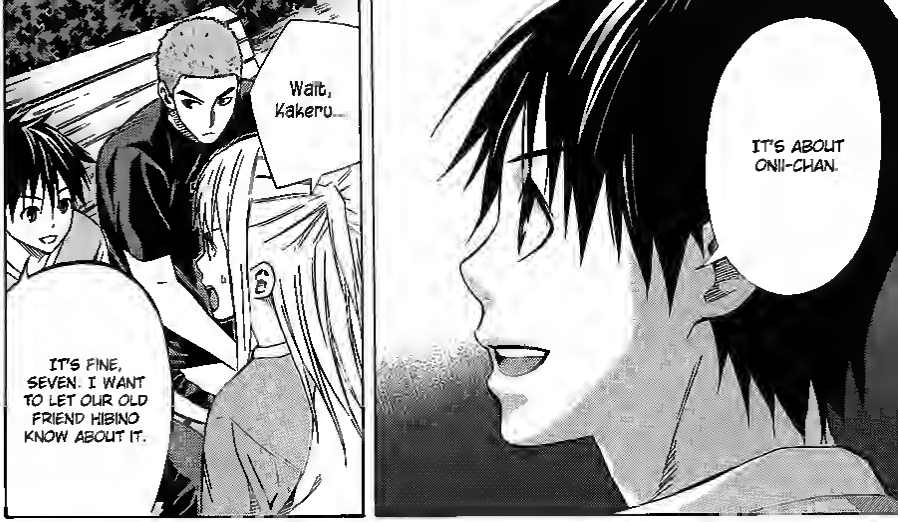
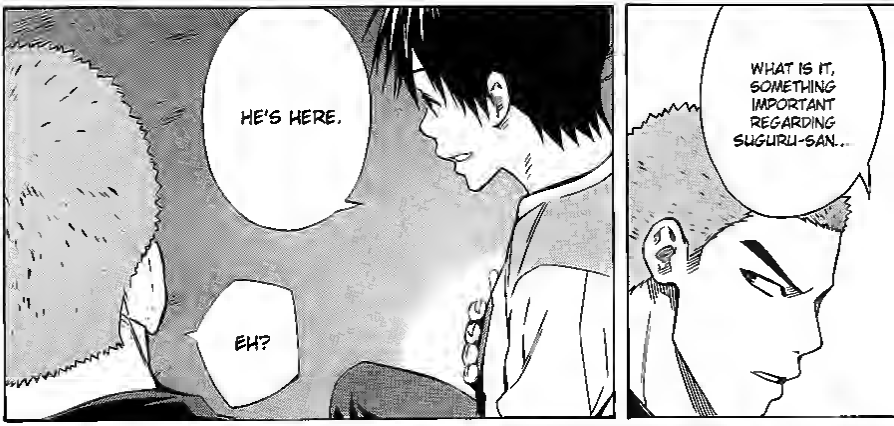
I'VE GOT WORK TO DO.

HEY, KAKERU? YOU MUST BE TIRED RIGHT? TOMORROW'S THE MATCH, YOU SHOULD REST ALREADY...
I'M FINE, I DON'T FEEL TIRED AT ALL.
I WANT TO REPEAT THE IMAGE OF TODAY'S GAME A LITTLE MORE.
BESIDES, HIBINO IS COMING HERE TONIGHT.
EH?
OH, KAKERU!
AH, HE'S HERE.
HIBINO-KUN...
MISHIMA IS HERE TOO, YOU DID IT IN TODAY'S MATCH.
SO, WHAT IS IT?
..YEAH?



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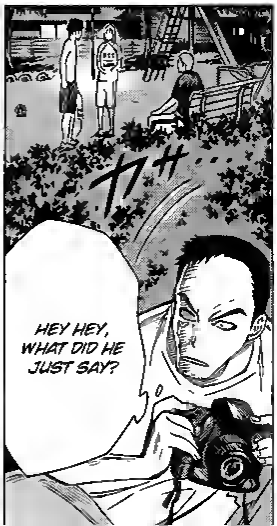
IN MY BODY.
.....
FRENTH
D IT
BOTTOR

I CAME TO TARGET NADESHIKO JAPAN'S IDOL LATE NIGHT SECRET MEETING ...
AIZAWA SUGURU.. THAT GENIUS WHO DIED IN AN ACCIDENT?
THAT'S HIS YOUNGER BROTHER..


カサ...
HEY HEY, WHAT DID HE JUST SAY?

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YEAH.
H-HEART... TRANSPLANT?